

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

5/18/05

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

SB 332 (Birkholz)

SB 332 would help reduce the threat of new aquatic nuisance species by requiring vessel operators to obtain a permit and treat their ballast water before discharging it. The bill would establish a new permit program for oceangoing vessels engaging in port operations to be administered by the Department. An individual permit would require an application fee of \$750 and an annual fee of \$8,700. A general permit to discharge would require an application fee of \$75 and an annual fee of \$150. Actual revenue collection would depend on the number of vessels, the level of compliance, and enforcement actions required.

Support: DEQ, NWF, MUCC, MEC, Chamber, MTA, MML, MAC.

• The Senate concurred with the House changes to SB 332 [RC 149: 38 yes, 0 no]. Immediate Effect was given to the bill.

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 161 (Allen)

SB 161 would allow the operation of a snowmobile on the right-of-way of a limited access public highway under certain circumstances. The bill also would allow snowmobile operation on a limited access or non-limited access highway right-of-way to be permanently prohibited if certain conditions were met.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC]. (5/17)
- SB 161 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 161 passed [RC 152: 38 yes, 0 no]. (5/18)

SB 205 (Hammerstrom)

SB 205 would require the board of a school district or public school academy would have to require each person it employed or assigned as an interscholastic athletic coach to hold valid certification in sport safety training. A person could obtain certification by successfully completing a sport safety training course approved by the State Board of Education. The course would have to include instruction in at least cardiopulmonary resuscitation, emergency procedures, first aid, and injury prevention. Certification would not be required if a person demonstrated that he or she had a physical limitation that made it impracticable for him or her to complete the

course and obtain the certification. The certification requirement also would not apply to a licensed physician, physician's assistant, nurse, or emergency medical services worker.

- SB 205 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments. (5/17)
- SB 205 passed [RC 150: 38 yes, 0 no]. (5/18)

SB 310 (JACOBS)

SB 310 would require that health: 1) Employ at least one person who was certified in first aid, CPR, and the use of an automatic external defibrillator; 2) Have a defibrillator; on the premises; and 3) Develop and implement emergency plans, or face civil penalties. A violation of the bill would be a State civil infraction punishable by a maximum civil fine of \$250 for a first offense, \$500 for a second offense, or \$1,000 for a third or subsequent offense. The bill specifies that a person would not have a duty to render emergency service to an individual using an AED a health club had on the premises.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC]. (5/17)
- SB 310 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 310 passed [RC 151: 38 yes, 0 no]. (5/18)

SB 366 (Garcia)

SB 366 would require the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to post, at the entrance to the recreational areas of each State park containing a designated shooting range that is open to visitors, a notice stating the range's regular hours of operation. The notice would have to be posted in a visible location, and the lettering would have to be of a sufficient type size to be read easily by State park visitors. The DNR would not have to post the hours of operation in which the shooting range was open for special events. If the Department did not do so, however, the notice would have to include a statement to that effect.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC]. (5/17)
- SB 366 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 366 passed [RC 153: 38 yes, 0 no]. (5/18)

HB 4603 (Palsrok)

HB 4603 would require the DEQ to promulgate rules regulating the discharge of substances containing biological pollutants from oceangoing vessels and, beginning January 1, 2007, require all oceangoing vessels engaging in port operations in Michigan to obtain a discharge permit from the DEQ. The bill would also require the DEQ to facilitate the formation of a Great Lakes Aquatic Nuisance Species Coalition with other states in the Great Lakes Basin to enforce water pollution laws prohibiting the discharge of harmful organisms into the Great Lakes.

- HB 4603 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments. (5/17)
- Birkholz 1 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- Birkholz 2 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. Effective date.
- HB 4603 passed with IE [RC 154: 38 yes, 0 no]. (5/18)

THIRD READING

SB 298 (Kuipers)

SB 298 would allow a qualified high-technology business to apply for an exemption from fees charged for additional authorized shares, for up to eight consecutive tax years or tax years in which the business had under \$10 million in gross revenue. This bill could reduce the amount of revenue generated from corporations' fees by \$600,000 to \$800,000.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 298 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4008 (Caswell)

HB 4008 would amend how reciprocal agreements for higher education institutions are governed and implemented. Specifically, the bill would provide that reciprocal agreements be limited to three year terms, tuition rate charged be that rate for in-state, out-of-district students, and that Dept. of Labor and Economic Growth be the governing agency of agreements. Agreements could be renewed or extended after the three year term with approval by the appropriations committees of the House and Senate. The Department would be required to annually review all reciprocal agreements.

Support: Department of Education, DLEG, Eastern Michigan University.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted [no RC].
- HB 4008 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4142 (Palmer)

HB 4142 would change the original Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) authorizing statute to revise the manner in which the state assessment program is administered. This bill would go one step further to ensure that the delays with assessment scorings and lost tests that occurred a few years ago will not happen again. It will also help ensure proper oversight of the assessment vendors. The interest groups have not taken a position on this legislation. While they do not believe the bill necessary, they do not feel strongly about opposing it.

[Last session, Rep. Palmer introduced House Bill 6333 which was discharged from the House Education Committee and passed the House (56-41) in the last days of session. House Bill 4142 (H-1) is a reintroduction of HB 6333 as it passed the House.]

Support: The Michigan Department of Education.

• HB 4142 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.